The Great Start Readiness Program and the
2015-2016 Community Needs Assessment and Application (CNAA)

The CNAA is a collaborative effort that includes representation from the Great Start Collaborative, community agency partners, all school districts and public school academies, Early Childhood Special Education, Head Start grantees, and Title I preschools within the administering Intermediate School District (ISD). Data are used to determine allocations for the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP).

This document offers an overview which will support your annual data collection and decision-making process about need and capacity for the grant.   It takes much more time to gather the information needed to complete the CNAA than it takes to enter it into MEGS+. Don't wait to begin the process; this is the way to ensure that the ISD will best meet the needs of children at risk and be able to offer a high-quality preschool experience to all qualifying children in partnership with Head Start.

Highlights for portions of the CNAA are described below.

1. **Need and Capacity**.
   a. The screenshot from last year's application, below, displays required fields.
   b. Data request and calculations on this page have not changed from last year.
   c. All dates have been revised.
   d. For a refresher on features of this page, please review last year's voice-over presentation at http://remc.adobeconnect.com/gsrp_cnra_2015/.

Funding Rounds One Through Three

*1.	Enter the estimated number of children with birth dates between October 2, 2009 and October 1, 2010 who could enter a four-year old preschool program in 2014.		
2.	Click SAVE. This is the Fall 2013 Kindergarten enrollment for MDE review.		
*3.	Enter the number of children from Line 1 estimated to be from families at or less than 250% of the Federal Poverty Level; this number cannot be greater than line 1. This is the number of children who qualify for publicly funded preschool.		
4.	Click SAVE. This is the number of four-year old Head Start children served in 2013-14.		
5.	This is the number of **children** who qualify for GSRP.		
*6.	Enter the number of slots this ISD is requesting to use in the School-Day option. (Every two slots requested will serve one child in the School-Day option. The number of **slots** requested must not exceed the number of children who qualify from Line 5.)		
7.	Click SAVE. This is the number of **slots** remaining.		
*8.	Enter the number of **slots** this ISD is requesting to use in the GSRP/Head Start Blend option.		
9.	Click SAVE. This is the number of **slots** remaining.		
*10.	Enter the number of **slots** this ISD is requesting to use in the Part-Day option.		
11.	Click SAVE. This is the number of slots not requested from those available in line 5 above.		

Funding Beyond Round Three

Both the GSRP/Head Start Blend and School-Day options use slots but leave GSRP children who qualify from Line 5 above unserved. Line 12 below equals these children plus those represented by slots not requested in Line 11 above. If funding remains after round three allocations, slots could be allocated to serve remaining eligible children.

12.	This is the number of GSRP eligible **children** left unserved.		
*13.	If additional **slots** could be allocated after round three, enter the number this ISD would like to use in the School-Day option. (Request two slots for every child you plan to serve in the School -Day option from those children in Line 12 above.)		
14.	Click SAVE. This is the number of **slots** remaining.		
*15.	If additional **slots** could be allocated after round three, enter the number this ISD would like to use in the GSRP/Head Start Blend option. (These slots are not subtracted per the explanation for this section.)		
16.	This is the number of **slots** remaining.		
*17.	If additional **slots** could be allocated after round three, enter the number this ISD would like to use in the Part-Day option.		
18.	Click SAVE. This is the total **slots** requested to serve children beyond round three.		
19.	This is the number of GSRP eligible **children** who would remain unserved by the ISD.		

2. **Confirmation of Assurances.**
   a. Data Sources. This feature is not changed from last year. The ISD reports data sources used to complete the Need and Capacity page and retains documentation in ISD administrative files.
   b. Supplementary Child Care. This feature has been reintroduced to the application and determines eligibility for priority funding. Questions address whether or not the programs provide one or more of the following:
      i. Before-and after class child care services for the children funded for GSRP,
      ii. Transportation to and/or from child care providers to attend GSRP,
      iii. Coordination of child care services for families by referring families to Great Start Connect, and
      iv. A plan for providing or improving child care services for preschool children.
   c. Collaboration. This feature is not changed from last year. The endorsement form and guidelines are included as part of this overview and will also be available within the CNAA. The ISD assures compliance with all criteria related to the 2015-2016 GSC Endorsement:
      i. Data collection on poverty, number of four-year-old children at risk of school failure and existing preschool programming,
      ii. Discussion of data with representatives from each subrecipient and the GSC,
      iii. Collaborative decisions on the slot-request, program options and process to determine preschool sites for 2015-2016, culminating in endorsement from the GSC, and
      iv. The signed endorsement form is retained at the ISD.

3. **The Process to Choose Subrecipients and Award Slots**. This page is reformatted to provide more consistent depth of response to the following:
   a. Percentage of ISD slots awarded to community-based organizations (CBO) in the previous year,
   b. How the school readiness advisory committee will be involved in the process to determine the need and capacity of the ISD regarding GSRP slots and services,
   c. How the full Great Start Collaborative (GSC) will be involved in the process to increase the percentage of slots awarded to CBOs,
   d. Description of the ISD notification made to each licensed program within its area regarding the program's eligibility to participate as a subrecipient. At a minimum, two ISD notifications must be reported; one must be U.S. Mail and one must be within 7 days after the ISD receives its slot allocation notice from MDE.
   e. How the ISD will inform each licensed child care center of the GSRP requirements and provide a description of the application and the selection process. Minimally one ISD notification must be reported.
   f. Description of the competitive application and selection process for current subrecipients.
      i. How current subrecipients learn of the conditions for the continued awarding of slots,
      ii. How current subrecipients request a continued, expanded or reduced slot award,
      iii. When the application is available to current subrecipients and when is it due,
      iv. When the ISD notifies current subrecipients of the results of the slot request,
   g. Description of the competitive application and selection process for potential (new) subrecipients, with priority to meeting the legislatively mandated award of at least 30 percent of slots to CBOs.
      i. When the ISD informs potential subrecipients of the factors the ISD will consider in making the decision to award slots,
      ii. When the application is available to potential subrecipients and when is it due, and
      iii. When the ISD notifies potential subrecipients of the results of the partnership and slot request.
   h. How the ISD will provide a list of subrecipients, with their related Great Start to Quality ratings, to participating families and to the public.